



Washington, D.C. 20505

25 June 2019

Ms. Emma Best
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 49653
411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Reference: F-2018-01025

Dear Ms. Best:

This is a final response your 27 February 2018 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for **files relating to the programs MHALPHA, MHASHA and MHVAPOR, which are related to the MHCHAOS program**. We processed your request in accordance with the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 3141, as amended.

We completed a thorough search for records responsive to your request and located a document, consisting of one page, which we determined can be released in its entirety. A copy of the document is enclosed at Tab A.

We also determined that three documents, consisting of seven pages, can be released in segregable form with deletions made on the basis of FOIA exemptions (b)(1) and/or (b)(3). Copies of the documents and an explanation of exemptions are enclosed at Tab B. Exemption (b)(3) pertains to information exempt from disclosure by statute. The relevant statutes are Section 6 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended, and Section 102A(i)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended. As the CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator, I am the CIA official responsible for this determination. You have the right to appeal this response to the Agency Release Panel, in my care, within 90 days from the date of this letter. Please include the basis of your appeal.

Please note, MHASHA is actually MHPASHA. We wish to also advise you that there are documents containing these words that were reviewed and released pursuant to the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Act of 1992 ("JFK Act"). The Agency transferred these records to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in compliance with the JFK Act. You may wish to submit a request to NARA at the following address to obtain the most complete set of records on these subjects:

JFK Assassination Records Collection
National Archives at College Park
8601 Adelphi Road

College Park, MD 20740-6001

If you have any questions regarding our response, you may contact us at:

Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505
Information and Privacy Coordinator
703-613-3007 (Fax)

Please be advised that you may seek dispute resolution services from the CIA's FOIA Public Liaison or from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) of the National Archives and Records Administration. OGIS offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. You may reach CIA's FOIA Public Liaison at: 703-613-1287 (FOIA Hotline)

The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001
202-741-5770
877-864-6448
202-741-5769 (fax)
ogis@nara.gov

Contacting the CIA's FOIA Public Liaison or OGIS does not affect your right to pursue an administrative appeal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Lilly', is written over the printed name.

Mark Lilly
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

TAB A

SECRET

17 AUG 1967

TAB B

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, RID

SUBJECT : Special Handling of Correspondence on
Project MHALPHA

1. It is requested that all field correspondence bearing the slug MHALPHA be delivered unopened to the Chief of the area division concerned.

2. The Division Chief will be responsible for disseminating information copies to Chief, CI Staff and the Deputy Director for Plans.

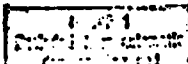
/s/
Deputy Chief
Counter Intelligence Staff

APPROVED:

/s/
Deputy Director for Plans

Date

cc: DDP

SECRET

TAB B

Explanation of Exemptions

Freedom of Information Act:

- (b)(1) exempts from disclosure information currently and properly classified, pursuant to an Executive Order;
- (b)(2) exempts from disclosure information which pertains solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Agency;
- (b)(3) exempts from disclosure information that another federal statute protects, provided that the other federal statute either requires that the matters be withheld, or establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld. The (b)(3) statutes upon which the CIA relies include, but are not limited to, the CIA Act of 1949;
- (b)(4) exempts from disclosure trade secrets and commercial or financial information that is obtained from a person and that is privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) exempts from disclosure inter-and intra-agency memoranda or letters that would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) exempts from disclosure information from personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy;
- (b)(7) exempts from disclosure information compiled for law enforcement purposes to the extent that the production of the information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings; (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication; (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source or, in the case of information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source ; (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law; or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger any individual's life or physical safety;
- (b)(8) exempts from disclosure information contained in reports or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, or on behalf of, or for use of an agency responsible for regulating or supervising financial institutions; and
- (b)(9) exempts from disclosure geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

April 2012

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CIOP/DO

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10 July 1968

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Approved for Release: 2019/06/14 C01475743

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CITE DIRECTOR

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

JMCOBRA

RYBAT MHCHAOS

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF BOOK CABLE FROM DESMOND
TO ALMOST ALL STATIONS AND BASES ABROAD:

A. HQS IS ENGAGED IN SENSITIVE HIGH PRIORITY PROGRAM
CONCERNING FOREIGN CONTACTS WITH US INDIVIDUALS
AND ORGANIZATIONS OF THE "RADICAL LEFT". INCLUDED
IN THIS CATEGORY ARE RADICAL STUDENTS, ANTI-
VIETNAM WAR ACTIVISTS, DRAFT RESISTERS AND
DESERTERS, BLACK NATIONALISTS, ANARCHISTS, AND
ASSORTED "NEW LEFTISTS". THE OBJECTIVE IS TO
DISCOVER THE EXTENT TO WHICH SOVIETS, CHICOMS,
CUBANS, AND OTHER COMMUNIST COUNTRIES ARE EXPLOITING
OUR DOMESTIC PROBLEM IN TERMS OF SUBVERSION AND

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ESPIONAGE. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS ANY
EVIDENCE OF FOREIGN DIRECTION, CONTROL,
TRAINING, OR FUNDING.

B. RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN
ASSIGNED TO CHIEF WOMUSE AND THE FOLLOWING
SPECIAL HANDLING PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN
ESTABLISHED. ALL CABLES AND DISPATCHES ON THIS
SUBJECT WILL BE SLUGGED RYBAT MHCHAOS WHICH
LIMITS DISTRIBUTION TO CHIEF WOMUSE, CHIEF AREA
DIVISION CONTROLLING STATION AND CHIEF AND
ASSISTANT CHIEF WOMACE ON EYES ONLY BASIS. NO
OTHER ACTION INDICATORS SHOULD BE USED. DISPATCHES
SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO CHIEF WOMUSE (2 COPIES),
INFORMATION CHIEF AREA DIVISION. NO LATERAL
FIELD DISTRIBUTION SHOULD BE MADE UNLESS HQS
SPECIFIES AND NO MENTION OF MHCHAOS OR REFERENCE.

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CITE DIRECTOR 17-3

TO []
 TO MHCHAOS CABLES OR DISPATCHES SHOULD BE
 MADE IN NON-MHCHAOS TRAFFIC. ANY DISSEMINATION
 OF MHCHAOS INFORMATION WILL BE SPECIALLY
 HANDLED AT HQS. COS (COB) SHOULD MAINTAIN
 MHCHAOS TRAFFIC ON EYES ONLY BASIS UNDER HIS
 PERSONAL CONTROL AND DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER
 SHOULD NOT BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PERSONS FROM HQS
 OR OTHER STATIONS EXCEPT ABOVE MENTIONED
 RECIPIENTS OF TRAFFIC, UNLESS SPECIFICALLY
 AUTHORIZED BY HQS.

C. MHALPHA AND MHPASHA SLUGS HAVE BEEN
 SUPERSEDED BY MHCHAOS AND SHOULD NO LONGER BE
 USED.

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CITE DIRECTOR 15 37

2. IT IS REQUESTED THAT EACH BASE CHIEF DISCUSS
SUBJECT MATTER PARA 1 A ABOVE WITH HIS LNERGO
COUNTERPART. LOCAL LNERGO REP SHOULD BE URGED TO
REFER TO HIS HQS ANY LEADS WHICH WOFIRM COULD EXPLOIT
ABROAD, INCLUDING BGBERET TRAVEL. BASE SHOULD
SIMULTANEOUSLY REPORT TO HQS WHERE FORMAL COORDINATION
WITH LNERGO WILL BE UNDERTAKEN.

C/DO

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C/WH

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25 June 1968

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CITE DIRECTOR

11227

RYBAT MHALPHA/MHPASHA

FROM DESMOND

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

1. RECENT HIGH-LEVEL WOFIRM/LNERGO DISCUSSIONS HAVE UNDERScoreD THE NEED FOR INCREASED COVERAGE OF THE ACTIVITIES ABROAD OF MHALPHA/MHPASHA INDIVIDUALS. PRIMARY INTEREST IS EVIDENCE OF FOREIGN GUIDANCE, CONTROL, TRAINING, OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

2. HQS APPRECIATES REPORTING ALREADY RECEIVED (PARTICULARLY [REDACTED] BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT WE MUST NOW TRY TO ENGAGE CERTAIN LIAISON SERVICES MORE FULLY IN COVERAGE OF THIS TARGET. IN VIEW OF RECENT DISORDERS IN [REDACTED] IT APPEARS LIKELY YOUR LIAISON SERVICE MAY BE UNDERTAKING INCREASED COVERAGE OF INDIVIDUALS OF LIKE PERSUASION IN THEIR AREAS WHICH COULD CONSIDERABLY ASSIST US IN MONITORING CONTACTS OF WOLADY CITIZENS. FURTHERMORE, YOUR LIAISONS CAN AND DO [REDACTED] OF COVERING [REDACTED]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

(b)(1)

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TO

THESE TARGETS WHICH MAY PRODUCE FIRM DATA ON FOREIGN INFLUENCE.

3. PLEASE EXPLORE THIS MATTER WITH YOUR LIAISON, EMPHASIZING THAT IT IS LIKELY THAT BLOC SERVICES WILL TAKE WHATEVER ADVANTAGE THEY CAN OF THIS SITUATION. WOULD APPRECIATE CABLED REPORT OF RESULTS YOUR DISCUSSIONS.

4. (IN 37049) D91 DULY NOTED IN THIS CONNECTION, AND WE WELCOME "DIALOGUE" SUGGESTED. END OF MESSAGE

(b)(1)
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17 August 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Cable Secretary

SUBJECT : Cable Distribution for Sensitive
Project MHALPHA

1. A newly established project will bear cable indicators RYBAT MHALPHA. Please limit distribution on cables with the MHALPHA indicator to the following recipients:

Action: Chief of the area division controlling the station or base involved. (Eyes Only) (Two copies)

Information: Chief, CI Staff (Eyes Only) (Two copies)

~~SECRET~~ ADDP (Eyes Only)

2. Please mail copies of these cables to the recipients in envelopes marked "Eyes Only".

3. Please refer any questions concerning this procedure to Richard Ober, CI/OP/DO,

(b)(3)

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Deputy Chief
Counter Intelligence Staff

cc:DDP

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